

CORRESPONDENCE.

Selater's Contour Map of Colorado.

EDITOR OF 'THE AUK':

Dear Sir: — In commenting upon Selater's excellent book on the Birds of Colorado in the April number of 'The Auk,' I neglected to mention his map. It is very unfortunate that he republished this map, which is evidently taken from Rydberg's Flora of Colorado, because it is exceedingly incorrect as to contour lines. In a state like Colorado, presenting differences in altitude of a mile and a half, the altitudes of various localities are of great importance to naturalists. Altitude is an essential element in the study of the distribution of plants and animals in Colorado and of the migrations of birds. In the map in question, to take a few out of many examples, the contour lines give Boulder an altitude of about 2 000 feet too much, Golden 2,500 feet too much, Denver 1,000 feet, Trinidad 1,000 feet, Meeker is placed considerably too low, etc. Fortunately a gazetteer in each of the books mentioned will in part correct the faults of the map for those who notice and use it instead of the map. The altitudes of most of the towns of the state may also of course be obtained from the Dictionary of Altitudes published by the United States Geological Survey, or the Gazetteer of Colorado (Bulletin 291 of the same survey). These publications also give the altitudes of many other points aside from the towns. Nearly all western railway folders also give the altitudes of stations along their routes. The Colorado Geological Survey has almost ready for the printer a new topographic map of the state, based upon data from the most reliable sources, which will place the contour lines in as nearly their correct positions as can be done at present, and in those portions of the state where detailed field work has been done the lines will be very accurate. Consequently no naturalist need have any difficulty in most cases in obtaining altitudes, providing he is warned against using the map in Selater's book and in the Flora of Colorado.

JUNIUS HENDERSON.

A Correction.

EDITOR OF 'THE AUK': —

Dear Sir: — I find that the Index to the 'Bulletin of the Nuttall Ornithological Club' and 'The Auk', for the period 1876–1900 (New York, 1907), includes on page 72 the titles of all the contributions of the late Captain John Clifford Brown, U. S. V.¹ under another's name, though on page 235 "Brown, J. C." is given credit for four of them which relate to

¹ See Auk' XVIII, pp. 220–221.